

# Shoreline

Volume 2, Issue 11 December 2014

## Festival of Lights



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Team,

The holidays are upon us and soon we'll ring in the New Year.

The past two months have passed quickly and I want you to know how much I appreciate the hard work you do every day supporting the Fleet, Fighter, and Family.

I hope that each of you will take time over the holidays to rest, relax, and enjoy time with family and friends. Please take time to remember our shipmates who are away from loved ones or are in harm's way this holiday season -- our Sailors stand watch around the world and the work you do to support them is significant.

If you travel, travel safely and come back to work recharged and ready for a great and productive year.

I look forward to visiting our installations and regions throughout the next year and seeing all the great things you're doing.

Again, thanks for all you do. From our home to yours, Kiki and I wish you and your families a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season.

All the best, Vice Admiral Dixon Smith



*Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith*

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

# Pearl Harbor Survivor Recounts Life-changing Experience During CNIC Visit

*By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class John Belanger, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The 19-year-old airman jumped from his bunk when he heard a thunderous explosion outside his third floor barracks window, Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941. When he looked out the window, he saw a plane with a big red ball flying low to the ground strafing Hickam airfield.

Retired Air Force Chief Warrant Officer Jay C. Groff Jr., a 92-year-old Pearl Harbor survivor, recounted his story about the attack on Pearl Harbor to the staff at Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) headquarters in Washington, D.C., during a remembrance ceremony Dec. 3.

"That was the first time I was scared," said Groff. "I could see the bombs coming down through the ceiling." Groff explained that the thick reinforced concrete walls in the barracks sheltered him from the blast and probably saved his life.

Through the explosions and gunfire, Groff hastily made his way to an armament building to help a technical sergeant set up machine guns in a baseball field while Japanese Zeroes strafed them.

"We set up probably 10 guns between home plate and third base," Groff recalled. "I was in my skivvies; I didn't bother to put clothes on and until this day I couldn't tell you if I was wearing shoes."

Groff left the baseball field to join with fellow airmen at his boathouse duty station and manned a machine gun on its roof. They were only there a short while when an unarmed American B-17 bomber, being shot at by a Japanese Zero, tried to land on the runway just beyond the boathouse. Groff was so close he could see someone leaning out of the B-17 and the puffs of smoke coming from the Zeroes guns as the bomber crash-landed.

"The Zeroes' rounds hit a flare box in the B-17 and by the time it finished rolling the plane had burned in half," said Groff.



Retired Air Force Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jay C. Groff Jr., a 92-year-old Pearl Harbor survivor, recounts his experiences in Pearl Harbor to the staff of Commander, Navy Installations Command in Washington D.C. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class John Belanger/Released)

Groff made it through the events of that terrible day but realized he had just witnessed what could have been the most important day of the 20th century. The world had changed for the United States and for him.

"That morning I realized that there was somebody out there trying to kill me," said Groff. "That changed my outlook on life."

Groff enlisted in the Army Air Corps after graduating from high school in May 1940. After arriving at his first duty station at Hickam Field in Oahu, Hawaii, Groff was assigned to the crash boat section on the base. Prior to the use of helicopters, the Army Air Corps used fast watercraft similar to Navy patrol torpedo boats to pick up pilots who crash-landed in the water.

The ceremony concluded with Groff reading a poem entitled 'To You Our Fallen' written by Sergeant W. Joe Brimm, Dec. 7, 1941, and a heartfelt thank you from Capt. Douglas F. Cochrane, chief of staff, CNIC. "Thank you for your service and thank you for an example today of a life extraordinarily well lived,"

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# Surface Fleet Receives NeRD e-Readers

By Sandra Niedzwiecki, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy General Library Program (NGLP) announced Dec. 5 the arrival of the Navy e-Reader device (NeRD), to the surface fleet.

A single, portable device developed by Findaway World in conjunction with the NGLP, the NeRD is now an essential component of the U.S. Navy's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation program.

The e-readers were produced to enhance leisure time, while promoting professional growth. They contain most of the 18 titles that comprise the Chief of Naval Operations Professional Reading Program.



A Sailor displays the Navy e-Reader (NeRD) device. The Navy General Library Program has announced that the NeRDs, which began shipping to submarines in May, have now expanded to the surface fleet. The e-readers were produced to enhance leisure time while promoting professional growth. (U.S. Navy photo by Sandra Niedzwiecki/Released)

"The Navy e-Reader is a definite hit with the submarine force," said Senior Chief Electronics Technician Kevin Rollert, chief of the boat, USS Jacksonville (SSN-699). "During at-sea time there is routinely a five-person waitlist. The material is what today's Sailors want to read and is one of the most popular morale items on board."

Submarines began receiving the NeRDs in May. They were a huge hit with the Sailors. As a result of this success, the program is expanding to include the surface fleet.

"The NeRDs have been shipped to the Deployed Forces Support (DFS) offices," said Nilya Carrato, program

assistant for the library program. "Once DFS receives them then they are distributed to the surface fleet."

The e-Reader has already been shipped to all homeports worldwide. They are being distributed to smaller combatants such as mine sweepers, destroyers, frigates, cruisers, and also to the hospital ships, Diego Garcia Shore Library and Navy Air Facility Atsugi Shore Library, Japan. The NLGP office plans to include all other surface ships, including aircraft carriers, in the NeRD program in the future.

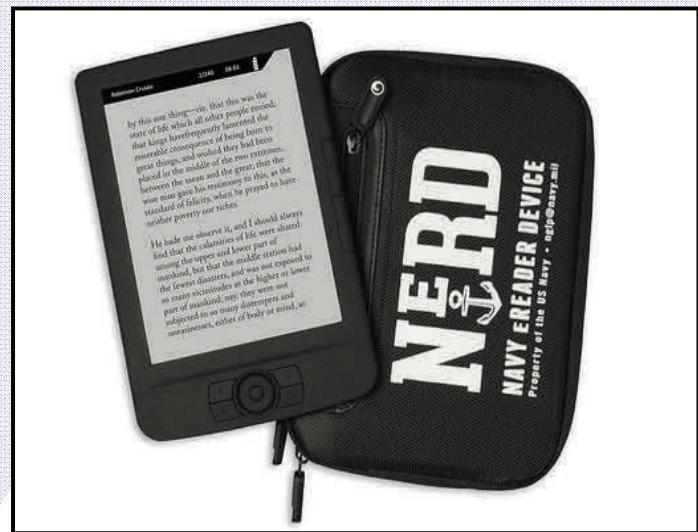
The collection contains a wide variety of titles such as "The Odyssey," "Game of Thrones" and "Bossy Pants."

"There is something for everyone," said Carrato.

Carrato added, since its initial release the title list has had some adjustments and the list of titles is constantly being reviewed. The NeRDs now have fiction, contemporary and best-seller genres that appeal to both men and women; "To Kill A Mocking Bird" was added to the classic literature section and more books with female heroines were added to the science fiction section.

Current plans call for 1,170 NeRDs to be distributed, with 1,140 going to the fleet and 30 going to shore libraries. While there are not enough NeRDs for every Sailor, there are enough to share.

For more information regarding the Navy Library program visit <http://navymwr.ord/libraries/digital>.



# Navy Wounded Warriors Participate in Recovery Events at the Pentagon

By Patty Babb, Navy Wounded Warrior - Safe Harbor

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Ten seriously wounded, ill and injured Sailors took part in Warrior Care Month events at the Pentagon Nov. 20, sharing their stories and demonstrating the healing power of art and sports therapies.

Two Navy wounded warriors - Chief Logistics Specialist Averill Malone and Damage Controlman 1st Class Anthony Timbers - displayed their artwork and poetry at the inaugural Rehabilitation Expo. The event was attended by senior military leaders - including the Honorable Jessica L. Garfola Wright, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, and James Rodriguez, deputy assistant secretary of defense, Office of Warrior Care Policy - as well as Department of Defense employees.

"This event gives us as veterans the opportunity to show our art in a way that we normally wouldn't," said Timbers, who was injured in separate shipboard and liberty accidents. "[An event like this is] intimidating in a lot of ways but, once the show started, it's like jumping off a diving board - once you jump, it's exciting and it's the best feeling in the world."



Navy Chief Logistics Specialist Averill Malone, who was wounded in combat, shows his artwork to an attendee at the Rehabilitation Expo. Malone says that without art therapy and adaptive sports, he "might not be here today."



Retired Navy Damage Controlman 1st Class Anthony Timbers, who was injured in separate shipboard and liberty accidents, holds a Warrior Care Month sign next to his artwork display at the Rehabilitation Expo. Timbers writes poetry and uses graphic design and photography as a form of therapy.

Timbers has long enjoyed writing and poetry, but he set his craft aside when he joined the Navy more than a decade ago. In 2008, while he was serving onboard the USS O'Kane (DDG 77) in the Arabian Gulf, a portable dewatering pump fell on his chest. In the aftermath of the accident, Timbers had difficulty coping with his pain, and his combination of medications resulted in seizures and dependency issues.

In 2012, he was injured again in a liberty boating accident and received treatment at the Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore. Shortly thereafter, Timbers became involved in the Combat Paper Project, a nonprofit organization that helped him make paper using the fibers of his Navy uniform and taught him graphic design skills. The very first piece he created through the Combat Paper Project was displayed prominently at the Rehabilitation Expo.

"Combat Paper opened up a whole new experience for me, graphic art, and I was finally good at something again. And then, after a while, I became a good Sailor again. It was incredibly therapeutic," said Timbers, who is planning to medically separate from the Navy this month.

Malone, who suffers from severe post-traumatic stress disorder after a 2008 combat deployment, served as a keynote speaker at the Rehabilitation Expo. He displayed several paintings at the event, along with several medals he earned at adaptive sports events.

"I can honestly say that if it weren't for adaptive sports and art therapy, I probably wouldn't be here today. I would be a statistic," he said.

At the Pentagon Athletic Center, eight wounded warriors - including six members of the Navy's gold medal-winning team - participated in a sitting volleyball exhibition among all branches of military service. The Navy team placed fourth after several closely contested matches.

"It's such a great feeling when you have a championship team and you come back together, it's almost like you can beat anything," said retired Navy Airman Brett Parks, a lower-leg amputee who was injured in 2012 when he tried to stop a robbery in progress. "Today we were a little rusty, and we were trying out some new guys. But we know when it's time to turn it on, we turn it on."

The event was hosted by the Army's Warrior Transition Command and supported by the Office of Warrior Care Policy. It also featured a senior leader exhibition game,

which included Navy Wounded Warrior (NWW) - Safe Harbor Director Capt. Brent Breining, and was attended by high-profile guests such as Wright and the Honorable Juan M. Garcia, assistant secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs).

All of the Navy wounded warriors who participated in the events at the Pentagon are enrolled in NWW, the Navy's sole wounded warrior support program. NWW provides individually-tailored assistance to more than 3,000 seriously wounded, ill and injured Sailors and Coast Guardsmen around the country.

Warrior Care Month, held each November, is an effort to increase awareness of resources available to seriously wounded, ill and injured service members, their families and those who care for them. This year's theme, "A Show of Strength," recognizes the fortitude and resiliency that seriously wounded, ill and injured service members exhibit during their journey toward recovery.

For more information about NWW, call 1-855-NAVY WWP/1-855-628-9997, visit <http://safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil> or email [navywoundedwarrior@navy.mil](mailto:navywoundedwarrior@navy.mil). For more information about Warrior Care Month activities, visit <http://safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil> or [www.facebook.com/navysafeharbor](http://www.facebook.com/navysafeharbor).



## CNIC Guiding Principles

- **Take Customer Service to the Next Level**
  - "Can-Do" Attitudes that Result in Positive Experiences
- **Be Brilliant on the Basics**
  - Know and Execute Policy / Doctrine; Perfect Our Guidance
- **Make Smart Business Decisions**
  - Advance Enterprise Alignment; Seek Efficiency and ROI
- **Live a Culture of Continuous Improvement**
  - Base Appearance, Sharing of Lessons, Critical Introspection
- **Represent Navy to the Surrounding Community**
  - Installations are the Face of the Navy; it's about Relationships

**Service Through Action: Customer-Focused, Efficient, Effective, and Responsive**

# CNIC Celebrates Lodging Appreciation Day

*By Navy Installations Command Lodging Program*

On Nov. 19, lodging professionals from Navy Gateway Inns and Suites, Navy Getaways and Fisher House gathered at their local installations to celebrate CNIC Navy Lodging Program Appreciation Day.

The gathering recognized individual professional accomplishments, such as Manager, Supervisor, Associate, Front Desk Associate and Housekeeper of the Year Awards. Employees were recognized for demonstrated personal initiative, leadership and noteworthy contributions to the Navy Lodging Program

through Navy Gateway Inns and Suites, Fisher House and Navy Getaways.

Each installation added a variety of recognitions to the celebrations that included certificates, plaques, congratulation messages and much more. Command leadership participated while employees and guests alike were able to socialize in a relaxing environment. Pride of accomplishment, team spirit, and high morale was obvious in the enthusiasm and excitement of all who were present.

## Congratulations to the 2014 Lodging Employees of the Year!



### SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR

Michael Conroy  
CFA Okinawa



### MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Aireen Reveche  
Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo



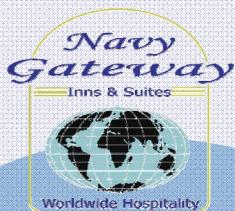
### FRONT DESK ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR

Linda Artiaco  
Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport



### ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR

Yoshie Ogawara  
Naval Air Facility Misawa



### HOUSEKEEPER OF THE YEAR

Masahiko Matsubara  
Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo

### STELLAR SERVICE AWARD

Purificacion Valerio  
Navy Gateway Inns and Suites  
Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor

Cathy Grimm  
Fisher House  
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune

Melodie Harris  
Navy Getaways  
Naval Air Station Kingsville

Stranded on the highway in cold weather? Winter weather can kill an unprepared person who is exposed to the elements within minutes. Keep survival kits in all of your vehicles (including a flashlight, gloves, blankets, and flares). Whenever you travel in the winter, let someone know your route and when you plan to arrive. If you get stranded, don't leave your vehicle.

### **Winter Driving Tips:**



- **Adjust your speed to road conditions** and increase the distance between your car and the car in front of you. Remember that bridges and overpasses freeze first. If you start to skid, stay calm. Take your foot off the gas and turn in the direction you want the front of the car to go. Don't pump anti-lock brakes--apply a steady pressure to the pedal.

- **Make sure your car is ready for the season.** Throughout the winter, keep your gas tank at least half full to keep the gas line from freezing.

- **Brush all the snow off before starting out** if your car has been outside during a snowfall. If you leave snow on your hood, it can melt and re-freeze on the windshield. Snow on the roof can blow or slide off and block the rear window. Pay particular attention to cleaning off headlights and taillights so that other motorists can see you.



- **If you get stranded, stay calm and stay put.** By staying with your vehicle, you'll decrease your risk of frostbite or hypothermia, and you'll increase your chances of being rescued. Start the car and run the heater every half-hour if it is really cold. If you do this, make sure that snow or slush isn't blocking your exhaust pipe, and leave a window slightly open.

- **Make sure you take your cell phone**, and on longer trips, keep the battery fully charged. If you keep the phone warm, the power won't drain as quickly. And pull off the road if you need to call someone.



### **Sleepiness and Driving Don't Mix**



Feeling sleepy is especially dangerous when you are driving. Sleepiness slows your reaction time, decreases awareness and impairs your judgment, just like drugs or alcohol. People who are very sleepy behave in similar ways to people who are drunk. The impact that this has on traffic safety should not be underestimated. In fact, the AAA Foundation recently studied the prevalence and impact of drowsy driving and estimated that 16.5 percent of fatal crashes on the nation's roadways involve a drowsy driver. If you are feeling drowsy, daydreaming, can't keep your head up, or yawning frequently pull over and take a break.